

## Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Winston Welch  
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Meeting Date 06-07-2017  
Council/PH Council  
Committee  
Agenda Item Bill 23  
Your position on the matter Support  
Representing Organization  
Organization The Outdoor Circle  
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

2018 JUN -6 PM 5:49  
C & C OF HONOLULU

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for unanimously passing Bill 23 recognizing that parks withing the City and County of Honolulu need to remain as parks and not brought under Department of Enterprise Services. Parks need to remain under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Department. With the Mayor's veto of this bill, the City Council must override this veto, because our public parks that have been clearly and unequivocally been dedicated to public space and usage, without commercialization or potentially closing them off to the public to make money, like is the case with Blaisdell Center or Waikiki Shell.

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Testimony

The Outdoor Circle has been a strong advocate for open public spaces and parks. For this reason, The Outdoor Circle strongly supports Bill 23 and asks that you do the same by voting to override the Mayor's veto of the bill. During original testimony on this bill, there was very little opposition (mostly coming from the Administration and DES). However, as you are aware, there was much community support for keeping parks, especially Thomas Square, inside of the Parks and Recreation Department. To remove Thomas Square, or any other parks from their rightful places as public spaces is simply unacceptable to convert these public parks to potentially closed, revenue-generating spaces, which goes against historical precedent and overwhelming public opinion.

Please ensure that all parks remain clearly in the dedicated public space that benefits our residents and visitors alike.

Please vote to override the veto of Bill 23.

Thank you.

Testimony  
Attachment  
Accept Terms  
and Agreement 1

MISC. COM. 3110

COUNCIL

6/6/2017